

Farallones June 14th 1860

Dear Brother Horace,

I received your letter of April 29th some days ago and must confess that I have been rather dilatory in replying. but the fact is I have been considerably worried of late and consequently I could not settle myself down to write a letter.

We are now in the midst of the egg season and the Egg Co. and the Lt Keepers are at war. They made a complaint to the Inspector that I was endeavoring to ruin their business &c and in fact wrote a long mess of falsehoods about me but the Inspector was kind enough to send me their statement and ask mine in reply and you may rest assured that I wrote an answer. (The Inspector told a friend of mine that I was heavy on writing letters ) and I think I have showed up this Co. in their true light. At all events the documents have all gone to Washington and the Inspector wrote a long letter himself (which he read to me) to accompany them and I think that before long the Egg Co will ascertain to their complete satisfaction who is Keeper of Farallone Light.

They thought I was one who they could do just as they pleased with and by boasting that they owned this island could frighten me into subjection but I'm "not that man."

They have tried every means in their power to effect my removal. but up to this time they have failed and now I have made up my mind that if I stay here I will see that Co decently "cleaned out" for "I have set my life upon the cast and will stand the hazard of the die." In the future with us it is "war to the knife and the knife to the hilt."

I am glad very glad to learn that you are going to stick to the "old familiar spot" and I certainly think Horace you have come to a wise conclusion and I believe today that I should be far better off and happier if I had never left home but this far in life my lot has been cast in slippery places and I am getting too old now to think of starting anew therefore I must abide the issue. "There is a Divinity which shapes our ends; Rough hew them as we may."

I may be perhaps at some future time able to assist you somewhat in your efforts at home and should such be the case you may rest assured that it will be done cheerfully. At present I have about made up my mind to remain in California that is if I can make satisfactory arrangements. for as I view the matter it would be perfect folly for me to go home unless I had money sufficient to enter into some business and as I have not I must try and content myself here. I have written to Hannah asking her if she will come out here if I will send for her and upon her answer my future course in great measure depends.

But I must close as we have some visitors here stopping a few days and I must "do the amiable" as well as possible. Write as often as you can find time and believe me as ever

Yours truly,

Amos

P.S. I hope you will excuse this short letter. Horace but the fact is I am very busy at present I am studying to accomplish a certain end and you must know, is very much occupied. A.C.